

Fiscal Note



Fiscal Services Division

<u>SF 2280</u> – Electronic Government Communications (LSB 5716SV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

Senate File 2280 requires the Chief Information Officer, in cooperation with State agencies that manage public benefit programs, to develop a common database for the programs. Public benefit programs are programs that assist low-income individuals and families such as those administered by the Departments of Human Services, Education, Aging, and Public Health, and the Iowa Finance Authority. The purpose of the database is to reduce costs and improve administration and verification of eligibility by sharing of confidential information among agencies and to assist applicants and recipients by providing access through the Internet or mobile device. The database is to be developed as a pilot project and then expanded. A provision is made for federal restrictions that could cause the loss of federal funding.

Assumptions

- State agencies have a number of complex and disparate information technology (IT) systems supporting existing programs.
- A detailed assessment of all the data systems and the elements stored by these systems will be needed in order to develop the framework to integrate all the elements.
- The Chief Information Officer will need to hire a consultant to proceed with the project.
- The costs for assessment and planning in the first year can be estimated. There are too
 many unknown factors to estimate the out-year costs of integrating agencies one-by-one in
 a pilot project manner.
- This Bill does not specify a funding source for this project. It is assumed expenditures will be funded from the Information Technology (IT) Operations Revolving Fund. This Fund is supported by payments from State agencies for information technology services as authorized in Iowa Code section 8A.123.
- The costs to State agencies with public benefit programs will be minimal and involve cooperation and staff time to share information.

Fiscal Impact

The first-year evaluation and planning costs to initiate this project are estimated to be \$750,000 paid from the IT Operations Revolving Fund.

Sources

Chief Information Officer Department of Public Health

/s/ Holly M. Lyons
February 26, 2014

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to <u>Joint Rule 17</u> and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.